

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A control method of an Internet facsimile being connected to a telephone network and Internet for transferring electronic mail received via the Internet by facsimile, the control method comprising the steps of:

receiving electronic mail containing a password encrypted and related to a control command for indicating a facsimile communication function;

decrypting the password encrypted; and

transferring an electronic mail document by facsimile following the control command using the password decrypted.

2. The control method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the password is encrypted and set in a main body of the electronic mail.

3. The control method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the password is encrypted and set in a destination field of received electronic mail.

4. The control method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the encryption of the password is performed in an encryption system of S/MIME (Secure/Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension) or PGP/MIME (Pretty Good Privacy/ Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension).

5. The control method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the control command indicates a confidential communication function, a bulletin board communication function, or a relay broadcast communication function defined in ITU-T (International Telecommunications Union-Telecommunications Standards

Section) Recommendation T.30.

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6. An Internet facsimile being connected to a telephone network and Internet and having a function of transferring an electronic mail document received via the Internet by facsimile, the Internet facsimile comprising:

a determination section, upon reception of an electronic mail document to be transferred by facsimile, for determining whether or not a password related to a control command for indicating a facsimile communication function is encrypted and set in the electronic mail;

a decryption section for decrypting the password if the determination section determines that the electronic mail has the password encrypted; and

a communication control section for transferring the electronic mail by facsimile following the control command using the decrypted password.

7. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 6 wherein if the determination section determines that the password is encrypted in a main body of the received electronic mail, the decryption section decrypts the encrypted password.

8. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 6 wherein if the determination section determines that the password is encrypted in a destination field of the received electronic mail, the decryption section decrypts the encrypted password.

9. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 6 wherein the password is encrypted according to an encryption system of S/MIME (Secure/Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension) or PGP/MIME (Pretty Good Privacy/ Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension) .

10. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 6 wherein the control command indicates a confidential communication function, a bulletin board communication function, or a relay broadcast communication function defined in ITU-T (International Telecommunications Union-Telecommunications Standards Section) Recommendation T.30.

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11. A communication instruction terminal having a function of instructing an Internet facsimile to transfer an electronic mail by facsimile through Internet, the communication instruction terminal comprising:

an encryption section for encrypting a password related to a control command for indicating a facsimile communication function added to the electronic mail to be transferred by facsimile by an encryption system for encrypting the electronic mail; and

a sending section for giving the password encrypted by the encryption section to the electronic mail and sending the electronic mail.

12. The communication instruction terminal as claimed in claim 11 wherein the sending section sets the encrypted password in a destination field of the electronic mail.

13. The communication instruction terminal as claimed in claim 11 wherein the sending section sets the encrypted password in a main body of the electronic mail.

14. The communication instruction terminal as claimed in claim 11 wherein the encryption section encrypts the password using an encryption system of S/MIME (Secure/Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension) or PGP/MIME (Pretty Good Privacy/ Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension).

15. The communication instruction terminal as claimed in claim 11 wherein the control command indicates a confidential communication function, a

bulletin board communication function, or a relay broadcast communication function defined in ITU-T (International Telecommunications Union-Telecommunications Standards Section) Recommendation T.30.

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16. An Internet facsimile being connected to both a telephone network and Internet and having a function of transferring an electronic mail document received via the Internet by facsimile, the Internet facsimile comprising:

a determination section, upon reception of an electronic mail document to be transferred by facsimile, for determining whether or not the transmission source is identified correctly; and

a communication control section for transferring the received electronic mail by facsimile only if the determination section determines that the transmission source is identified correctly.

17. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 16 wherein the determination section uses a function of S/MIME (Secure/Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension) or PGP/MIME (Pretty Good Privacy/ Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension) to determine whether or not the transmission source can be identified correctly.

18. An Internet facsimile being connected to both a telephone network and Internet and having a function of transferring an electronic mail received via the Internet by facsimile, the Internet facsimile comprising:

a setting section for setting an address of each transmission source of an electronic mail to be transferred by facsimile, permitted in advance for fax transfer;

a determination section, upon reception of an electronic mail to be transferred by facsimile, for determining whether or not the address of the transmission source of the electronic mail is set by the setting section; and

a communication control section for transferring the received electronic mail by facsimile only if the determination section determines that the address of the transmission source of the electronic mail is set by the setting section.

19. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 18 wherein the setting section sets the address of the transmission source of the electronic mail to be transferred by facsimile, permitted for fax transfer in an abbreviated dialing table.

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20. An Internet facsimile being connected to both a telephone network and Internet and having a function of transferring an electronic mail received via the Internet by facsimile, the Internet facsimile comprising:

a setting section for setting a telephone number of each transfer destination permitted in advance for fax transfer;

a first determination section for determining whether or not the transmission source of an electronic mail to be transferred by facsimile, received through the Internet is identified correctly;

a second determination section for determining whether or not the telephone number of the facsimile transfer destination of the electronic mail is set by the setting section if the first determination section determines that the transmission source is identified correctly; and

a communication control section for transferring the received electronic mail by facsimile only if the second determination section determines that the telephone number of the facsimile transfer destination of the electronic mail is set by the setting section.

21. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 20 wherein the setting section sets the telephone number of the transfer destination permitted for fax transfer in an abbreviated dialing table.

22. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 20 wherein the first determination section uses a function of S/MIME (Secure/Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension) or PGP/MIME (Pretty Good Privacy/ Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension) to determine whether or not the transmission source is identified correctly.

23. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 20 further comprising a setting section for setting an address of each transmission source of an electronic mail to be transferred by facsimile, permitted in advance for fax transfer, wherein

the first determination section determines whether or not the transmission source is identified correctly based on whether or not the address of the transmission source of the electronic mail to be transferred by facsimile is set by the setting section.

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24. A control method of an Internet facsimile being connected to both a telephone network and Internet and having a function of transferring an electronic mail received via the Internet by facsimile, the control method comprising the steps of:

determining whether or not the transmission source is identified correctly upon reception of an electronic mail to be transferred by facsimile; and

transferring the received electronic mail by facsimile only if it is determined in the determination step that the transmission source is identified correctly.

25. The control method as claimed in claim 24 wherein a function of S/MIME (Secure/Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension) or PGP/MIME (Pretty Good Privacy/ Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension) is used to determine whether or not the transmission source can be identified correctly.

26. A control method of an Internet facsimile being connected to both a telephone network and Internet and having a function of transferring an electronic mail received via the Internet by facsimile, the control method comprising the steps of:

setting an address of each transmission source of an electronic mail to be transferred by facsimile, permitted in advance for fax transfer;

upon reception of an electronic mail to be transferred by facsimile, determining whether or not the address of the transmission source of the electronic mail is set in the setting step; and

transferring the received electronic mail by facsimile only if the determination step determines that the address of the transmission source of the electronic mail is set in the setting step.

27. The control method as claimed in claim 26 wherein the address of the transmission source of the electronic mail to be transferred by facsimile, permitted for fax transfer is set in an abbreviated dialing table.

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28. A control method of an Internet facsimile being connected to both a telephone network and Internet and having a function of transferring an electronic mail received via the Internet by facsimile, the control method comprising the steps of:

setting a telephone number of each transfer destination permitted in advance for fax transfer;

determining whether or not the transmission source of an electronic mail to be transferred by facsimile, received through the Internet is identified correctly;

determining whether or not the telephone number of the facsimile transfer destination of the electronic mail is set by the setting section if the determination step determines that the transmission source is identified correctly; and

transferring the received electronic mail by facsimile only if the determination step determines that the telephone number of the facsimile transfer destination of the electronic mail is set.

29. The control method as claimed in claim 28 wherein the telephone number of the transfer destination permitted for fax transfer is set in an abbreviated dialing table.

30. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 28 wherein a function of S/MIME (Secure/Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension) or PGP/MIME (Pretty Good Privacy/ Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension) is used to determine whether or not the transmission source is identified correctly.

31. The control method as claimed in claim 28 further comprising the step of setting an address of each transmission source of an electronic mail to be

transferred by facsimile, permitted in advance for fax transfer, wherein

whether or not the transmission source is identified correctly is determined based on whether or not the address of the transmission source of the electronic mail to be transferred by facsimile is set.

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32. A communication control method of an Internet communication apparatus for transmitting and receiving document information via Internet and transmitting and receiving facsimile image information via a public switched telephone network, the communication control method comprising the steps of:

refusing transfer of electronic mail received via the Internet when the electronic mail is transferred as the facsimile image information; and

printing out at least a part of the received electronic mail.

33. The communication control method as claimed in claim 32 wherein the printing out step prints a header part and a main body of the electronic mail and an attached file thereto.

34. The communication control method as claimed in claim 32 wherein the printing out step automatically prints a header part and a main body of the electronic mail.

35. The communication control method as claimed in claim 32 wherein the printing out step prints a reason why transfer of the electronic mail is refused.

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36. An Internet communication apparatus for transmitting and receiving document information via Internet and transmitting and receiving facsimile image information via a public switched telephone network, the Internet communication apparatus comprising:

a transfer refusing section for refusing transfer of electronic mail received via the Internet when the electronic mail is transferred as the facsimile image information; and

a print section for printing out at least a part of the received electronic mail if the transfer refusing section refuses electronic mail transfer.

37. The Internet communication apparatus as claimed in claim 36 wherein the printing section prints a header part and a main body of the electronic mail and an attached file thereto.

38. The Internet communication apparatus as claimed in claim 36 wherein the printing section automatically prints a header part and a main body of the electronic mail.

39. The Internet communication apparatus as claimed in claim 36 wherein the printing section prints a reason why transfer of the electronic mail is refused.

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40. An Internet facsimile communication apparatus being connected to Internet and a telephone network and having a function of transmitting received electronic mail by facsimile to a specified facsimile, the Internet facsimile communication apparatus comprising:

a determination section for determining whether or not a file attached to the electronic mail is in an expandable file format; and

a transmission section for transferring a header and a main body of the electronic mail and the attached file determined to be in an expandable file format by the determination section to a specified transmission destination.

41. The Internet facsimile communication apparatus as claimed in claim 40 further comprising a notification section for transferring information indicating that a file in an unexpandable file format is attached to the transfer destination.

42. The Internet facsimile communication apparatus as claimed in claim 41 wherein the information is a notification message indicating that a file in an unexpandable file format is attached, and wherein

the notification section adds the notification message to the main body.

43. The Internet facsimile communication apparatus as claimed in claim 41 wherein the information is a notification message indicating that a file in an unexpandable file format is attached, and wherein

the notification section deletes the main body and uses the notification message as the main body.

44. The Internet facsimile communication apparatus as claimed in claim 41 wherein the notification section uses a protocol.

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45. An Internet facsimile communication apparatus being connected to Internet and a telephone network and having a function of transmitting received electronic mail by facsimile to a specified facsimile, the Internet facsimile communication apparatus comprising:

a section for determining whether or not a file attached to the electronic mail is in an expandable file format; and

a file transfer protocol section for transferring the file not determined to be in an expandable file format to a facsimile at a transmission destination.

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46. A document processing method of an Internet facsimile being connected to Internet for transmitting and receiving electronic mail, the document processing method comprising the steps of:

receiving an electronic mail to which a document in an unprocessable file format is attached by the Internet facsimile;

transferring the electronic mail to a conversion server;

converting the document into a predetermined file format by the conversion server;

attaching the document converted into the predetermined file format to the electronic mail; and

returning the electronic mail to the Internet facsimile.

47. The document processing method as claimed in claim 46 wherein the conversion server is managed by a business party connected to the Internet and the business party provides the file format conversion conducted by the conversion server as a service.

48. The document processing method as claimed in claim 47 wherein the business party charges a customer for receiving the service in response to the data size of the document converted into the predetermined file format.

49. The document processing method as claimed in claim 47 wherein the business party charges a customer for receiving the service in response to the number of the documents converted into the predetermined file format.

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50. The document processing method as claimed in claim 47 wherein the business party charges a customer for receiving the service in response to the file format of the document before being converted into the predetermined file format.

51. The document processing method as claimed in claim 47 wherein the business party adds advertisement information to the electronic mail returned to the Internet facsimile and provides the service free of charge or at a reduced price.

52. The document processing method as claimed in claim 46 wherein the conversion server stores the document before being converted into the predetermined file format, adds identification information for identifying the document to the electronic mail returned to the Internet facsimile, and upon reception of a request to resend the document together with the identification information from the Internet facsimile, resends the document to the Internet facsimile based on the received identification information.

53. The document processing method as claimed in claim 46 wherein the conversion server stores the document converted into the predetermined file format, adds identification information for identifying the document to the electronic mail returned to the Internet facsimile, and upon reception of a request to resend the document together with the identification information from the Internet facsimile, resends the document to the Internet facsimile based on the received identification information.

54. The document processing method as claimed in claim 46 wherein the

Internet facsimile has a function of confidentially receiving electronic mail and facsimile information and wherein if the electronic mail transferred from the Internet facsimile is to be confidentially received, the conversion server converts a document attached to the electronic mail into the predetermined file format, attaches the document converted into the predetermined file format to the electronic mail confidentially received, and returns the electronic mail to the Internet facsimile.

55. The document processing method as claimed in claim 46 wherein the Internet facsimile has a function of confidentially receiving electronic mail and facsimile information, and

wherein when electronic mail to which a document in an unprocessable file format is attached is received, if the received electronic mail is to be usually received, the Internet facsimile transfers the electronic mail to the conversion server and if the received electronic mail is to be confidentially received, the Internet facsimile stores the electronic mail intact.

56. The document processing method as claimed in claim 46 wherein the Internet facsimile attaches certification information for certifying the identity of the Internet facsimile to the electronic mail to be transferred to the conversion server, and

the conversion server checks the identity of the Internet facsimile based on the certification information before converting the document into the predetermined file format.

57. The document processing method as claimed in claim 46 wherein the Internet facsimile encrypts the electronic mail to be transferred to the conversion server,

and

the conversion server encrypts the electronic mail to be returned to the Internet facsimile.

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58. A document processing apparatus of an Internet facsimile being connected to at least Internet for transmitting and receiving electronic mail, the document processing apparatus comprising:

a communication section for transmitting and receiving an electronic mail through a network to and from the Internet facsimile;

a conversion section for converting a document attached to electronic mail received by the communication section from the Internet facsimile into a predetermined file format; and

a return section for attaching the document converted into the predetermined file format by the conversion section to the electronic mail and returning the electronic mail from the communication section to the Internet facsimile.

59. The document processing apparatus as claimed in claim 58 wherein the communication section transmits and receives electronic mail through the Internet to and from the Internet facsimile.

60. The document processing apparatus as claimed in claim 58 further comprising a data size record section for recording the data size of the document converted into the predetermined file format by the conversion section.

61. The document processing apparatus as claimed in claim 58 further comprising a number-of-converted-documents record section for recording the number of the documents converted into the predetermined file format by the conversion section.

62. The document processing apparatus as claimed in claim 58 further comprising a file format record section for recording the former file format of the document converted into the predetermined file format by the conversion section.

63. The document processing apparatus as claimed in claim 58 wherein the return section comprises an advertisement information addition section for adding advertisement information to the electronic mail to be returned to the Internet facsimile.

64. The document processing apparatus as claimed in claim 58 further comprising:

a document storage section for storing the document attached to electronic mail received from the Internet facsimile or the document converted into the predetermined file format by the conversion section; and

an identification information giving section for giving identification information to the document stored in the document storage section, wherein

the return section transmits the identification information given by the identification information giving section to the document converted into the predetermined file format by the conversion section together with the document to the Internet facsimile, and upon reception of a request to resend the document together with the identification information from the Internet facsimile, resends the document corresponding to the identification information to the Internet facsimile.

65. The document processing apparatus as claimed in claim 58 wherein the Internet facsimile has a function of confidentially receiving electronic mail and

facsimile information and wherein

if electronic mail transferred from the Internet facsimile is to be confidentially received, the return section attaches the document converted into the predetermined file format by the conversion section to the electronic mail confidentially received and returns the electronic mail to the Internet facsimile.

66. The document processing apparatus as claimed in claim 58 further comprising a certification information check section for checking the identity of the Internet facsimile based on certification information attached to the electronic mail received from the Internet facsimile, wherein

the conversion section converts the document into the predetermined file format after the certification information check section checks the identity of the Internet facsimile.

67. The document processing apparatus as claimed in claim 58 further comprising:

a decryption section for decrypting encrypted electronic mail received from the Internet facsimile; and

an encryption section for encrypting the electronic mail to be returned by the return section.

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68. A document processing apparatus being connected to at least Internet for transmitting and receiving electronic mail, the document processing apparatus comprising:

a print section for printing out a document attached to received electronic mail; and

a transfer section, if the document attached to received electronic mail is in an unprocessable file format by the print section, for transferring the electronic mail to a conversion server, wherein

the conversion server converts the document attached to the electronic mail transferred by the transfer section into a predetermined file format, attaches the document converted into the predetermined file format to the electronic mail, and returns the electronic mail, and wherein

the print section prints out the document attached to the electronic mail returned from the conversion server.

69. The document processing apparatus as claimed in claim 68 further comprising a certification information attaching section for attaching certification information for certificating the identity to the electronic mail to be transferred by the transfer section.

70. The document processing apparatus as claimed in claim 68 further comprising:

an encryption section for encrypting the electronic mail to be transferred by the transfer section; and

a decryption section for decrypting encrypted electronic mail returned from

the conversion server.

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71. An Internet facsimile being connected to Internet and a public switched telephone network, the Internet facsimile comprising:

a priority extraction section for extracting priority assigned to each document transmitted and received via the Internet or the public switched telephone network; and

a processing section for processing the document based on the priority extracted by the priority extraction section.

72. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 71 wherein if a plurality of documents wait for being processed, the processing section compares the priority assigned to one of the plurality of documents with the priority assigned to another and processes the plurality of documents in the priority order from high to low based on the comparison.

73. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 71 wherein when the processing section processes one document, if another document requires the same processing and is assigned higher priority than that document, the processing section temporarily stops processing of the current document being processed and processes the document assigned the higher priority and after the termination of processing of the document assigned the higher priority, the processing section restarts processing of the document temporarily stopped.

74. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 71 wherein the processing section executes at least one of:

facsimile transmission processing of transmitting a document by facsimile;

Internet facsimile transmission processing of converting a document received

by facsimile into an electronic mail format for transmission; and

print processing of a document received by facsimile or electronic mail.

75. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 71 further comprising a setting section for specifying whether or not processing responsive to the priority is to be executed.

76. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 71 further comprising a transfer section, to print a document, when the document cannot be printed, if the document has higher priority than predetermined priority, for transferring the document to another predetermined machine.

77. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 76 further comprising a setting section for specifying whether or not the transfer section is to transfer the document to another machine and setting the predetermined priority.

78. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 71 further comprising a setting section for setting priority assigned to a document received by facsimile via the public switched telephone network from the transmitting party.

79. A control method of an Internet facsimile being connected to Internet and a public switched telephone network, the control method comprising the steps of:

extracting priority assigned to each document transmitted and received via the Internet or the public switched telephone network; and
processing the document based on the extracted priority.

80. The control method as claimed in claim 79 wherein if a plurality of documents wait for being processed, the priority assigned to one of the plurality of documents is compared with the priority assigned to another and the plurality of documents are processed in the priority order from high to low based on the comparison.

81. The control method as claimed in claim 79 wherein when one document is processed, if another document requires the same processing and is assigned higher priority than that document, processing of the current document being processed is temporarily stopped and the document assigned the higher priority is processed and after the termination of processing the document assigned the higher priority, processing of the document temporarily stopped is restarted.

82. The control method as claimed in claim 79 wherein the above-mentioned processing contains at least one of:

facsimile transmission processing of transmitting a document by facsimile;
Internet facsimile transmission processing of converting a document received by facsimile into an electronic mail format for transmission; and
print processing of a document received by facsimile or electronic mail.

83. The control method as claimed in claim 79 further comprising the step of specifying whether or not processing responsive to the priority is to be executed.

84. The control method as claimed in claim 79 further comprising the step of, to print a document, when the document cannot be printed, if the document has higher priority than predetermined priority, transferring the document to another predetermined machine.

85. The control method as claimed in claim 84 wherein whether or not the document is to be transferred to another machine is specified and the predetermined priority is set.

86. The control method as claimed in claim 79 further comprising the step of setting priority assigned to a document received by facsimile via the public switched telephone network from the transmitting party.

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87. An Internet facsimile for transmitting and receiving data through a network and transmitting and receiving facsimile data through a public switched telephone network, the Internet facsimile comprising:

a section for converting image data and document data in electronic mail received from the network into facsimile data and transmitting the facsimile data to a facsimile of a destination through the public switched telephone network; and

a communication information notification section for sending information concerning the transmission source of the electronic mail to the destination facsimile.

88. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 87 wherein the communication information notification section transmits an electronic mail address of the transmission source of the electronic mail to the destination facsimile as transmission source information of facsimile communications.

89. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 87 wherein the communication information notification section transmits an electronic mail address of the transmission source of the electronic mail to the destination facsimile together with information concerning the Internet facsimile.

90. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 87 wherein the communication information notification section transmits information indicating that the facsimile data is relayed in transfer by the Internet facsimile to the destination facsimile, and wherein

the destination facsimile comprises a display section for displaying information indicating that the received facsimile data is relayed in transfer.

91. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 87 further comprising a section for displaying the electronic mail address of the transmission source together with information concerning the destination facsimile.

92. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 87 further comprising a display section for displaying information indicating that the received electronic mail is to be relayed in transfer.

93. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 87 further comprising a batch transmission function of storing a plurality of pieces of electronic mail and transmitting the stored electronic mail pieces to the destination facsimile in batch.

94. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 93 wherein for all pieces of electronic mail transmitted in batch by the batch transmission function, the communication information notification section transmits the electronic mail addresses of the transmission sources to the destination facsimile as transmission source information of facsimile communications.

95. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 93 wherein for all pieces of electronic mail transmitted in batch by the batch transmission function, the communication information notification section transmits the electronic mail addresses of the transmission sources to the destination facsimile together with information concerning the Internet facsimile.

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96. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 93 wherein the communication information notification section transmits information indicating that the facsimile data is to be relayed in transfer by the Internet facsimile and information indicating that the facsimile data is to be transmitted in batch by the batch transmission function to the destination facsimile, and wherein

the destination facsimile comprises a display section for displaying information indicating that the received facsimile data is relayed in transfer and information indicating that the facsimile data is transmitted in batch.

97. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 93 further comprising a section for displaying the electronic mail addresses of the transmission sources for all facsimile data transmitted in batch by the batch transmission function together with information concerning the destination facsimile.

98. The Internet facsimile as claimed in claim 93 further comprising a display section for displaying information indicating that the electronic mail is to be relayed in transfer and information indicating that the electronic mail is to be transmitted in batch by the batch transmission function.

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99. A communication method in an Internet facsimile being connected to Internet and a telephone network for transmitting received electronic mail to a specified facsimile by facsimile, the communication method comprising the steps of:

dividing the electronic mail so that a header and main body of the electronic mail and contents of an attached file thereto are printed out on different pages; and
transmitting the electronic mail to a transfer destination by facsimile.

100. The communication method as claimed in claim 99 wherein the page sizes of the header and the main body are changed to the page size of the attached file.

101. The communication method as claimed in claim 99 wherein when a plurality of files are attached, the page sizes of the header, the main body, and any other attached file are changed to the page size of the first attached file.

102. The communication method as claimed in claim 99 wherein the page sizes of the header, the main body, and the attached file are changed to a predetermined page size.

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103. A communication method in an Internet facsimile being connected at least to Internet and a telephone network for transmitting received electronic mail to a specified facsimile by facsimile, the communication method comprising the steps of:

dividing the electronic mail so that a header and main body of the electronic mail and contents of an attached file thereto are printed out on different pages; and

transmitting the electronic mail to a transfer destination by facsimile.

104. The communication method as claimed in claim 103 wherein the page size of the header or the main body is changed so that the header and the main body fall within the same page.

105. The communication method as claimed in claim 103 wherein whether or not the header and the main body fall within the same page is determined before the electronic mail is divided.

106. The communication method as claimed in claim 105 wherein whether or not the header and the main body fall within the same page is determined by counting the number of lines of the header and the main body.

107. An Internet facsimile communication apparatus being connected at least to Internet and a telephone network and having a function of transmitting received electronic mail to a specified facsimile by facsimile, the Internet facsimile communication apparatus comprising:

a dividing section for dividing the electronic mail so that a header and main body of the electronic mail and contents of an attached file thereto are printed out on different pages.

108. The Internet facsimile communication apparatus as claimed in claim 107 further comprising a page size change section for changing the page sizes of the header and the main body to the page size of the attached file.

109. The Internet facsimile communication apparatus as claimed in claim 107 further comprising a page size change section for changing the page sizes of the header, the main body, and the attached file to a predetermined page size.

110. An Internet facsimile communication apparatus being connected at least to Internet and a telephone network and having a function of transmitting received electronic mail to a specified facsimile by facsimile, the Internet facsimile communication apparatus comprising:

a dividing section for dividing the electronic mail so that a header and main body of the electronic mail and contents of an attached file thereto are printed out on different pages.

111. The Internet facsimile communication apparatus as claimed in claim 110 further comprising a page size change section for changing the page size of the header or the main body so that the header and the main body fall within the same page.

112. The Internet facsimile communication apparatus as claimed in claim 110 further comprising a determination section for determining whether or not the header and the main body fall within the same page, wherein

if it is determined that the header and the main body fall within the same page, the electronic mail is divided so that the header and the main body and the contents of the attached file are printed out on different pages.

113. The Internet facsimile communication apparatus as claimed in claim 111 further comprising a count section for counting the number of lines of the header and the main body, wherein

the determination section uses the count section to determine whether or not the header and the main body fall within the same page.

114. An Internet facsimile communication apparatus being connected to Internet and a telephone network and having a function of transmitting received electronic mail to a specified facsimile by facsimile, the Internet facsimile communication apparatus comprising:

a first transfer setting section for specifying whether or not a header of the electronic mail is to be transferred to the transmission destination;

a second transfer setting section for specifying whether or not a main body of the electronic mail is to be transferred to the transmission destination; and

a deletion section for deleting information of the electronic mail in response to the first transfer setting section and the second transfer setting section.

115. The Internet facsimile communication apparatus as claimed in claim 114 further comprising a determination section for determining whether or not a file is attached to the electronic mail, wherein

if it is determined that no file is attached to the electronic mail, the header and the main body of the electronic mail are transferred regardless of the settings defined in the first and second transfer setting sections.

116. The Internet facsimile communication apparatus as claimed in claim 114 further comprising:

a first determination section for determining whether or not a file is attached to the electronic mail; and

a second determination section for determining whether or not the electronic mail contains a main body, wherein

if it is determined that the electronic mail does not contain a main body, the

electronic mail is not transferred regardless of the settings defined in the first and second transfer setting sections.

117. The Internet facsimile communication apparatus as claimed in claim 114 further comprising a third transfer setting section for setting the transferred information amount of the header, wherein

the deletion section deletes the information amount of the header in response to the transferred information amount of the header set in the third transfer setting section.

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118. A charging method for an Internet facsimile being connected to both Internet and a telephone line for transmitting received information attached to electronic mail by facsimile, the charging method comprising the step of:

charging a sender of the electronic mail for transmission based on sender information of the received electronic mail.

119. The charging method as claimed in claim 118 wherein the sender information is an electronic mail address of the sender described in header information of the electronic mail.

120. The charging method as claimed in claim 118 wherein the sender information is a digital signature attached to the electronic mail.

121. The charging method as claimed in claim 118 wherein the sender is charged based on transfer route information described in header information of the electronic mail.

122. The charging method as claimed in claim 118 wherein the charging amount is determined based on the communication charge required for facsimile transmission.

123. The charging method as claimed in claim 118 wherein the charging amount is determined based on the telephone number of the associated party of the facsimile transmission destination.

124. The charging method as claimed in claim 118 wherein the charging amount is determined based on a transmission condition at the facsimile transmitting time.

125. The charging method as claimed in claim 118 wherein the charging amount is determined based on the size of information attached to the electronic mail.

126. The charging method as claimed in claim 118 wherein the charging amount is determined based on the type of information attached to the electronic mail.

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127. A charging method for an Internet facsimile being connected at least to Internet for attaching image information provided by reading an original to electronic mail for transmission, the charging method comprising the steps of:

requesting user information to be entered before the original is read and charging based on the user information entered in response to the request.

128. The charging method as claimed in claim 127 wherein the charging amount is determined based on a reading condition of the original.

129. The charging method as claimed in claim 127 wherein the charging amount is determined based on the size of the image information.

130. The charging method as claimed in claim 127 wherein the charging amount is determined based on the transmission destination of the electronic mail.

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131. A charging apparatus for an Internet facsimile being connected to both Internet and a telephone line for transmitting received information attached to electronic mail by facsimile, the charging apparatus comprising:

a sender information acquisition section for acquiring sender information of the received electronic mail;

a charging amount calculation section for calculating the charging amount of the sender determined based on the sender information acquired by the sender information acquisition section; and

a charging amount record section for accumulating the charging amounts calculated by the charging amount calculation section and recording the result.

132. The charging apparatus as claimed in claim 130 wherein the sender information acquisition section acquires an electronic mail address of the sender described in header information of the electronic mail as the sender information.

133. The charging apparatus as claimed in claim 131 wherein the sender information acquisition section acquires a digital signature attached to the electronic mail as the sender information.

134. The charging apparatus as claimed in claim 131 wherein the charging amount calculation section calculates the charging amount based on transfer route information described in header information of the electronic mail.

135. The charging apparatus as claimed in claim 131 wherein the charging amount calculation section calculates the charging amount based on the

communication charge required for facsimile transmission.

136. The charging apparatus as claimed in claim 131 wherein the charging amount calculation section calculates the charging amount based on the telephone number of the associated party of the facsimile transmission destination.

137. The charging apparatus as claimed in claim 131 wherein the charging amount calculation section calculates the charging amount based on a transmission condition at the facsimile transmitting time.

138. The charging apparatus as claimed in claim 131 wherein the charging amount calculation section calculates the charging amount based on the size of information attached to the electronic mail.

139. The charging apparatus as claimed in claim 131 wherein the charging amount calculation section calculates the charging amount based on the type of information attached to the electronic mail.

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140. A charging apparatus for an Internet facsimile being connected at least to Internet for attaching image information provided by reading an original to electronic mail for transmission, the charging apparatus comprising:

a user information input section for requesting user information to be entered before the original is read and accepting user information entered in response to the request;

a charging amount calculation section for calculating the charging amount of the user specified based on the user information accepted by the user information input section; and

a charging amount record section for accumulating the charging amounts calculated by the charging amount calculation section and recording the result.

141. The charging apparatus as claimed in claim 140 wherein the charging amount calculation section determines the charging amount based on a reading condition of the original.

142. The charging apparatus as claimed in claim 140 wherein the charging amount calculation section determines the charging amount based on the size of the image information.

143. The charging apparatus as claimed in claim 140 wherein the charging amount calculation section determines the charging amount based on the transmission destination of the electronic mail.